

WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY



Mr. Henry Wallace, editor of Wallace's Farmer in Iowa, recently told an Iowa farmer that he had better pay \$12 a ton for alfalfa hay, rather than \$13 a ton for timothy hay. Mr. W. F. Massey, Wallace claims that the feeding value of the cowpea hay is as high as that of alfalfa. Farmers in the South who are spending time and money in the effort to grow alfalfa, could get the same quality of hay cheaper from cowpeas, and more of it in the same length of time.

There is no doubt of the value of alfalfa, and it makes a growth on fertile soil that gives a very large amount of hay. But most of our lands need to be brought up by a short rotation, and frequent sowing of the annual legumes, and alfalfa is not the best for a short rotation. A lot in alfalfa hay is lost in the field all night, and a stockman can grow it on a large scale by annual top dressings. But there are few of our farmers solely devoted to stock raising, and need rather to practice a rotation that will bring up their land rapidly for the production of the staple crops of the section, and for these the annual legumes like cowpea and crimson clover will be more profitable than alfalfa.

While making hay of higher feeding value than alfalfa, the legumes add the capacity of getting nitrogen from the air and adding it to the organic matter left in the soil, where it will go through the process of nitrification and become available to plants. There is as much nitrogen over an acre of poor land as there is over the richest, and it is on these poor acres that the legumes will get more nitrogen than they will on the rich ones, since they find plenty of food at hand in the soil, and not needing to get it from the air they do little of this.

When a few years ago, at a meeting of the Commissioners of Agriculture of the United States in Raleigh, I was put on the program to talk about grasses for the South. I began my talk by saying that the South did not need grass as much as she needed the legumes to bring the soil up to a condition in which the grasses would thrive more luxuriantly. We need the humus-making material that we can get through feeding the legumes and saving the manure. In the finishing of export cattle they have found in Missouri that nothing excels cowpea hay, and in the blue-grass section they find the cowpea hay a very valuable help in the raising of fine cattle.

Green Manuring. I am often asked if it will not be better for the rapid improvement of the soil to plow under the whole growth of the legume crops. Theoretically, this would be the best practice for the rapid improvement of the soil. But in actual practice, I have never been able to see the profit in the long run from burning in the soil a valuable food crop when, by carefully saving the manure, we can recover fully 80 percent of the manurial value of the feed to return to the land, and the remaining 20 per cent should give us a fine profit on the feeding.

Then, too, the turning under in the height of summer a great mass of green growth is apt to result in an acid fermentation and a souring of the soil to such an extent that crops will not thrive till the land has been limed. The only legume crop that I would, as a rule, use for plowing under rather than for forage is crimson clover. This is, turned under in the spring, when there is less danger of souring the soil, and the crop is such a difficult one to make good hay with, that I have been known to plow it under. It was best to use it as a manure and humus-making crop. Every one who has ever planted corn on a turned-under growth of crimson clover, must have noticed the fact that corn on clover, when green, is much more dry and but would when other corn is burning to the ears. I have never seen a field of corn as green when planted on a clover sod.

Bar Clover. This is Medicago, a sort of annual alfalfa, sown in the bare seed will carry to the soil the inoculation for alfalfa. But while Bar clover may do fairly well on the sandy soils of the lower Tidewater section and on the sandy soil of the lower part of Virginia, and even where it thrives best, it is of little value as forage as compared with vetch and other winter legumes.

Hairst Vetch. There are a great many species of vetch, but the only one of much value as a haymaking plant is the Hairst or sand vetch. The only difficulty is that it will be certain to exceed the land, and coming around about it will get the wheat grower trouble, since the seed are hard to separate from wheat. Hence, where the farmer is interested in wheat, I think he had better keep vetch off his land. A year or so ago we read great reports of what they called Oregon vetch.

Knowing that it is always best to fight any of plants with a fancy name and no botanical name given, I turned out to be simply the common spring vetch will all over the country, Vicia sativa, and a very light hay maker. The Hairst vetch must have some support if it is to be used for hay, for when alone it settles on the ground and the lower part will get damaged. Sown in September with wheat or oats to hold it up, the Hairst vetch makes a fine hay crop.

Soy or Soy Beans. Soy beans never do in a talk on legumes to omit the soy bean, it has become the chief competitor with the cowpea and in some respects is better. Soy beans make a better seed crop than cowpeas, and the beans have a high feeding value. In the earlier years they are better suited to the North than the cowpeas. Then it has been found that when in mixture with the running varieties of cowpeas, the erect habit of the soy helps hold up the peas and makes them more easily harvested. The soy has been found, too, that where the soil is well inoculated for cowpeas the same inoculation will be answer for the soy beans. The soy beans are rather more easily cured than cowpeas, but there is a great deal more waste in the hay from the hard stems.

Velvet Beans. I am often asked about the value of the velvet beans. In their proper climate they are certainly one of the heaviest forage makers grown. But unfortunately they take a very long season, and will seldom mature north of the southeast corner of North Carolina. They will make an immense growth, and take far less seed than soy, and even north of where they will mature seed, they may be used

as green feed to cut for dairy cows. As a hay crop the velvet bean cannot compare with the cowpeas and soy beans in the upper South.

Kudzu Vine. This is another legume plant that has been lately boomed as a forage plant. Botanically it is Pueraria Sieboldiana. It belongs to the general class called beans, but is a perfectly hardy perennial. I have grown it as a porch climber, and it has given me the wonderful value of its growth. Now it is claimed that let run on the ground it will make a great crop of forage cut several times during the season. Its value in this respect is yet to be proved, and it is to be hoped that the experiment stations will test it. Once in the ground it is there for good, and any one wanting to get rid of it will probably find it worse than honey suckle.

Beggar Weed. That is a species of Desmodium, and it is a true legume. It has proved of value in Florida, but in every experiment I made with it in North Carolina it proved to be of no value that far North. There are other legume plants that have from time to time been boomed as of value, but they have not come into use because of some lack either as stock food or yield. The Flat pea, Lathyrus sylvestris, was highly praised, but while it is a perennial, the Kikuyu, has no value as feed, because of its bitter character, and, in fact, it has been reported to be to some extent poisonous. Then lately I have had several specimens sent me of what we call Jack Beans. This is a Chinese plant, Canavalia ensiformis. It is a bush growing bean with seed as large as Lima beans in pods over a foot long. It would seem such a profitable plant, but it has some value, but it has been shown by analysis that it is far below any other legume in protein, and comparatively worthless. There is a rank climbing variety with pink seed that makes a very ornamental porch vine. I had it two years ago sent me from the far South. But while it made an enormous growth, it failed to mature seed here. I have now made a careful review of the various legume plants grown for forage and soil improvement, and as a reply to numerous letters in regard to the different species.

Potato Onions. Is there any difference between the potato onion and the Multiplier? How are they grown and when planted? There are two varieties of onions which increase by means of the bulb and never make seed. These are the yellow and the white potato onions. Both are sometimes called Multipliers from their habit of growth, but the name is more generally applied to the white one. The yellow potato onion is grown from the offsets planted in September. These offsets are of various sizes. The medium and smaller ones will usually produce a fair-sized onion, while the larger sets will make a good onion and a number of sets around it. To get a good supply of the sets I plant the large onions in the spring and the small ones in the autumn or winter sets each. They ripen the last of June and are cured and ready for planting in September. The yellow potato onion ripens early and is a profitable onion, as it comes on the market before the great seed-grown crop of the North. I have sold them readily for \$4.50 a barrel. But they are poor keepers and must be disposed of early.

The white potato onion has the same multiplying habit, but never makes a large onion. It is of value as an early green bunching onion, and for pickling when ripe. While the yellow potato onion is a poor keeper, the white one is the best keeper of any onion I have ever grown. Because of its greater size, the yellow potato onion will make far more bushels an acre than the white, but at times the little white ones command a good price at the pickle factories. Either can be used for green onions in spring, as the offsets of the yellow potato onion clean up perfectly white when green. To-day (July 16) the yellow potato onions are ripe and cured, and they are among the largest onions sold on the market. I had a pound and over in an unusual size, and they are now about the only ripe onions on the market since the Texas Bermudas were finished.

Vegetables for Fall and Winter. A lady correspondent in Eastern North Carolina, who reads The Times-Dispatch, and like some others, sends her letter to Richmond, asks me to tell her what vegetables she can plant this time on for late fall and winter use. It seems to me that I have already done something in the way of explaining this, but as there seems to be an indirect interest in the subject, I will simply state what I am doing and expect to do in my large garden. I will state here that I use hot-bed sashes with two layers of glass, making a dead air space between the sashes, and they are now about the only ripe onions on the market since the Texas Bermudas were finished.

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THOUSANDS VISIT WHARTON GROVE

Record-Breaking Crowds Are Attending Annual Camp-Meeting.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Lancaster, Va., July 29.—Wharton Grove camp-meeting, in the southwestern part of Lancaster County, began last Friday evening, and is now in full blast. It is located on the north side of the Rappahannock River, of which it commands a magnificent view, and the great tabernacle and the cottages that surround it are shaded by a mass of stately oaks and other native forest trees. Nearly 5,000 people attended the camp on Sunday, about 2,000 of whom came up from Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News and Hampton on the three steamers, Mobjack, Smithfield and Pennsylvania. More than 100 motor-cars lay anchored in front of the camp grounds during the day, while many others were engaged in bringing crowds of people from the adjacent shores of the Rappahannock and its tributaries. The Rev. Mr. Goodwin, of Irvington, preached a fine sermon in the morning, while Dr. H. M. Wharton, of Baltimore, for whom the camp is named, and who has been the leading preacher at every meeting held at Wharton Grove since it was established, preached in the afternoon and at night. The singing is conducted by a trained choir under the lead of a fine vocalist from Easton. Among the notable visitors to the camp-ground on Sunday was John Garland Pollard, of Richmond, candidate for Attorney-General. It was expected that he would deliver the regular layman's address on some religious subject, but owing to the fact that he is a candidate for a political office at this time, he declined to do so. Colonel John R. Saunders, his wife and son were among the visitors from Middlesex. The meeting will continue till next Sunday, when it is expected that another record-breaking crowd will be present.

Marvin Grove camp-meeting, in the southern part of Richmond County, will begin next Friday and continue through ten days. It was established thirty-seven years ago, and is held under the auspices of the Southern Methodist Church. It is situated in a splendid grove of oaks about midway between the Rappahannock and the Potomac, and has a larger attendance of the native population of the Northern Neck than any other camp-meeting in this section. Kirkland Grove camp-meeting, which, like Wharton Grove, is under the control of the Baptist denomination, is located near Heathsville, in Northumberland County. It will begin on the 15th of August, and continue for ten days. The Rappahannock Baptist Association began its annual session to-day with Nominai Baptist Church, in Westmoreland County. The venerable Dr. Wayland F. Dunaway, of Lancaster, is moderator of the association. Reports from the menhaden fish canneries report only small catches of fish during the past week. For the past two months the weather has been very favorable to the farmers of this region, and as a result the crops are looking better than for the past four or five years.

Charters Issued. Charters were issued by the State Corporation Commission yesterday as follows:

Hazel Hill Canning Company, Incorporated, Fredericksburg, Capital: \$2,000.00. Henry W. Fisher, secretary, both of Fredericksburg.

Foreign charters: Hilgastner Marble Co., of Baltimore City, a Maryland corporation, domesticated. Capital: \$25,000.00. J. J. Rapplich, State agent, Barton Heights.

ASTOR WILL SAIL TO MEET OLYMPIC

Goes to Greet His Mother, Who Is Returning From Europe.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] New York, July 29.—Vincent Astor will sail on the Noma to meet the Olympic aboard which is his mother, Mrs. John Astor. He probably will pick up the Olympic about 100 miles out, and will then be at sea greeting which Mrs. Astor will receive on arising.

The Noma will accompany the Olympic back to port. Mrs. Astor will be taken off at quarantine and will go direct to Newport. From Newport Mr. Astor will leave with the Atlantic liner for a ten-day target practice trip. He will be the guest of Rear-Admiral Badger on board the flagship Wyoming.

Mr. Astor's friends to-day learned for the first time of an encounter he had last week with his pet monkey Jocko, with the Noma. The yacht was at anchor off New Rochelle, and Mr. Astor was alone on the quarter-deck. Jocko, in some way, got out of his cage.

In the attempt to return him to the cage Mr. Astor was severely bitten four times on the hands. Jocko then stowed away in the rigging. Two sailors, who tried to bring him down, were bitten. He was captured by Second Mate Ruthenford, who threw his hat over the monkey's head.

News of Fredericksburg. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Fredericksburg, Va., July 29.—Judge R. H. L. Chichester, of Spotsylvania County Circuit Court, has appointed C. Richellen Coleman, a commissioner in chancery of the Circuit Court of Spotsylvania County, and also as commissioner of accounts of that court to fill the vacancy caused by the death of T. Stokely Coleman.

The appointment by Judge R. H. L. Chichester of former Judge Robert E. Waller, as Commonwealth's attorney for Spotsylvania County, to succeed the late T. Stokely Coleman, gives general satisfaction. Judge Waller qualified at once.

The congregation of St. George's Episcopal Church has granted a month's vacation to the Rev. J. J. Lanier, from August 1. During his absence the pulpit will be filled by the Rev. L. R. Coombs, of Lancaster County.

YOU'D BETTER GRAB THIS \$300.00 IN GOLD RIGHT NOW!

No use letting the other fellow win one of the fat, free Booklovers' Contest prizes when YOU can win it. \$300.00 in gold is first award. The contest is simply a game of solving pictures. Each picture represents the title of a book. Each day a picture is published, and there will be 77 in all. To-day Picture No. 4 appears. To-morrow the Catalogue will go on sale.

Get the Three Pictures Already Published and Win YOUR Slice of This Free Money!

35 Cents

Spent for a Catalogue Will Bring You Your Share of \$1,200 in Prizes

Solve the puzzles correctly and you win! Get a catalogue and it will help you to solve the puzzles correctly! The catalogue assists you in three ways:

First---It Contains the 77 Correct Titles

The catalogue consists of 5,000 titles of books, with the names of the respective authors, arranged alphabetically. From the list The Times-Dispatch selects the 77 titles in the Booklovers' Contest. It devolves only upon your ingenuity and application to the puzzles to pick out these 77. Book knowledge and brilliancy of mind are neutralized by the catalogue.

Second---This Is the Way to Solve To-Day's Picture

Suppose to-day's picture showed a man sitting on a river bank watching a boat race.

You know that the correct title represented by each contest picture is contained in the catalogue. The catalogue is a list of 5,000 book titles arranged in alphabetical order. Seventy-seven of these are guaranteed to be the seventy-seven titles represented by the seventy-seven contest pictures.

After looking at this picture carefully you have concluded that it MUST have been drawn to represent some such title as "The Boat Race," or "Watching the Race," or "The Spectator," or "Water Sports." The picture MUST have been to represent some such title. You don't have to have a knowledge of book titles to know that. Book knowledge does you no good in this contest—not when you have a catalogue.

You open your catalogue and turn to the titles beginning with the letter "B," where you look for such a title as "Boat Race, The." You turn to the titles beginning with the letter W and look for such titles as "Watching the Race," or "Water Sports." You turn to the titles beginning with the letter "S" and look for such a title as "Spectator, The."

And if you use your catalogue and your ingenuity, and KEEP AT IT, you MUST win out.

Take up to-day's picture as we have taken up the picture described above. Take to-day's picture to pieces, and think up what sort of titles it must have been drawn to represent. Then TEST OUT these possible titles in the catalogue. YOU can find the correct title to to-day's picture. Read the catalogue coupon to the left, and get the FREE picture certificates and START TO-DAY, and USE THE CATALOGUE.

Third---You Get 35 Pictures Free

In the Contest Catalogue you will find seven certificates. Each certificate will be redeemed for the five pictures named thereon. Thus, when you buy a catalogue you get the first 35 pictures free. They are worth one cent each.

The Catalogue assists you in solving the puzzles quickly and easily, greatly increases your chance of winning and adds to the fun. Costs but a trifle in comparison with the services it renders you. Get your catalogue! 35 cents—40 cents by mail.

YOU CAN START TO-DAY AND WIN. ALL THE PICTURES PUBLISHED TO DATE FREE WITH THE CATALOGUE.

TO-MORROW YOU CAN GET THE VERY LIST OF 5,000 BOOK TITLES FROM WHICH HAVE BEEN SELECTED THE 77 TITLES REPRESENTED BY THE 77 PICTURES IN THE TIMES-DISPATCH'S BOOKLOVERS' CONTEST. This Official Contest Catalogue has been especially prepared for this contest, and is a NEW one. With the Contest Catalogue you will receive certificates good for the first 35 pictures in the contest. With the aid of the Catalogue you can easily solve the pictures. GET THE CATALOGUE TO-DAY. IT'S A NEW ONE.

The Times-Dispatch's Great \$1200.00 Gold Booklovers' Contest Picture No. 4 Date July 30th.



What Book Does This Picture Represent? Write Title and Name of Author in Form Below

Title
Author
Your Name
Street and Number
City or Town

TOTAL NUMBER OF PICTURES, 77. Contest began July 27th. Each day a different picture appears in this space. Cut them out. Save them until the last picture appears on October 11th. Don't send in partial lists. Wait until you have all the answers to the 77. Read Rules, Daily Story and Special Announcements in another part of this paper. It will help you win a prize. Extra pictures and coupons of any date that appeared may be had at 2c. Enter to-day without registering your name. Merely Save Pictures and Coupons as they appear.

A four-page pamphlet, giving all details of this contest, was printed in this newspaper several days ago. If you did not see it, send a stamp or call at the office.

USE THIS ORDER BLANK FOR CATALOGUE

If you cut this order form, fill it out and send or bring it in with the name designated, you will receive the Official Copyrighted Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles, and seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures in the contest. In the catalogue are all the correct titles to the seventy-seven pictures. Catalogues, 35 cents at this office, 40 cents by mail.

Booklovers' Contest Editor, The Times-Dispatch:
Inclosed find 40 cents, for which send me a Booklovers' Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles and the seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures.
Name
Street and No.
City State

What the Contest Is

It consists of 77 pictures, one published each day in this paper, and each picture representing the title of a book. You simply tell what book title each picture represents, and when all 77 have been published, send in your set of answers. You will find this an easy, simple game, and the rewards are large. And you get all pictures published to date FREE with the Contest Catalogue. Start to-day. You can win.

Safeguarding the Contest

Entire supervision of this contest will be turned over to three of the city's well-known men, whose names will be announced later. These Booklovers' Contest Judges will have immediate and personal charge of the contest game, certifying to the list of correct titles, conducting the checking of the sets of answers and approving the selection of the winning sets.

ENTER THIS CONTEST TO-DAY.

You can enter contest at any time. Order the paper sent you for three months beginning with issue of day your order is received. Get in the contest right now. It is just becoming interesting. Don't miss a single picture. Get this paper every day.

Subscription Rates. Daily and Sunday by carrier, 65c a month. Daily and Sunday by mail for three months, \$1.50. Price of paper per single copy: Daily, 2c. Sunday, 5c.

The principal features in connection with this contest are copyrighted by the Booklovers' Contest Co., San Francisco, Cal.